

[Interview with Vito Cacciola #36]

I think This needs more [?] but hard to tell until [?].

[Interview?] 36 Conn. 1938-9 Interview with Vito Cacciola

BY Merton R. Lovett

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(from memory) ["What does you wisha to know, Mr. Lovett?

Hah! Hah!?] Did that girl who geta beat-ed and her bada husband becoma reconcil-ed? Nota yet. I should saya not. But I wish you hada been here, when that crooka call-ed on me.

[?] " I maka fool of him. I pretenda ignorance. When he says, 'Vito, I has coma back to Beverly once more,' I saya, 'that's a true, Joe.' Then I aska him, 'did you make a three, four day journey to Boston?' "Sure, Mrs. Lovett. I known all de time that stinka hasa been in Salem jail. I foola with him.

[#?] " What does he answer? He says, ' " No, Vito, you will be surpris-ed where I has gone. I has beena in de jail. "

[?] " No!" I saya. ' " So, I shoulda be surprised, [huh?]? I [ama?], but it is because you did not geta in de jail long time ago. "

[?] "Then I aska him, 'For what did they puta you in jail, Joe?'

[?] " 'Why, Vito,' he maka answer, 'Rosita de little cheata, she puta me there.'

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[?] “ ‘that is mucha bad,’ I saya. ‘But why should such a lovely little wife wanta you in de jail?’ 2 Page 2 [36?] “ ‘that was de big mistake,’ he say. ‘I wasa innocent. I doa nothing to her. She is mucha cruel. She lova me no more. She is de G— D— liar.’ “ ‘stopa such evil talk,’ I say. ‘I thinka Rosita is de sweeta girl with de heart most honest. What did de Judge think? Did he apologize to you, when you tella him you has dona nothing?’ “ Joe swears much. He call de Judge de old S— of a B——. I cannot repeata all what he says. Then he tella me that de Judge giva to him ninety days.’ “ ‘Hah! Hah!’ I aska. ‘If your actions wasa those of de gentleman; if you wasa kind and loving husband, why did de Judge giva you ninety days?’ “ ‘Vito,’ he replya; ‘I ams innocent of wrong. I will tella you de truth what happen-ed.’ “You can bet so, Mr. Lovett. De story which he recounts was de bull. That skunka hasa de black heart. “ I tella you now. He saya, ‘In de evening I visit-ed with my father. We drinka a little of wine. Then I go a up street to talka de business. When I coma home de wife she scolda me. 3 [37?]

She trya to strike me with de fist. I holda her arms with my hands, gently lika this. “ ‘What did de Judge saya, Joe,’ I asked him, ‘when you tella him that?’ “ ‘that bald headed bastard,’ he crya. ‘He would not leta me speak. He listens to de wife. When I trya to talk he maka me keep silence.’ “ ‘did de Judge believe her story?’ I asked. “ ‘Yes,’ he reply. ‘But I don’t knowa why. That little cheat maka monkey out of him.’ “ ‘Perhaps,’ I say to Joe, ‘de Judge seea them bruises on de arms of your wife. Perhaps her blacka eyes tella de truth to him.’ “ Then I aska, ‘How did you geta loos-ed from de jail?’

“Joe says, ‘I maka repeal. My papa raise de bond. There will be another trial.’ “No, Mr. Lovett, I do not thinka de repeal will do for that snaka any good. I hava de true knowledge. 4 [38?]

[?] “ It wasa like this. Joe hasa forty dollars. He maka visit to all de saloons on Rantoul Street. When he geta home it is almosta morning. He walka with difficulty. He bringa two gallons of wine and forc-ed his wife to drinka with him. “ What maka him angry, Mr. Lovett? I does not knowa. Things most insignificance maka de drunk man crazy. Perhaps it wasa

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because Rosita ask-ed him for twenty-five cents. She had no money to geta de breadfast. " Did he giva to her de money? Oh , Mr. Lovett, he does not. He giva to her instead de most depardonable insult. He tella her, that if she wanta twenty-five cents, she must goa out on de street and earna it. That scampa has only badness in de heart. " I thinka , Mr. Lovett, that a nica woman is lika precious pearl. Does you not? Such a woman should be cherish-ed. She shoulda be held close to de heart. If she isa sad she should be kiss-ed. " Rosita is so lovely that you'd be surprised. Now she liva with her mama. Yesterday I visita her. There at de mother's home seven children, without a father. It is harda on de old lady. 5 [39?] " No, de unfortunate Rosita hasa no childrens. These are her sisters and brothers. One is most cuta babino. When she seea me she giva me de big hug and kiss. Very often I taka to her de candy. "